

REMARKS

Applicants are hereby submitting this Preliminary Amendment within three months from the March 23, 2004 filing date of the application. The Amendments are supported by the specification. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.115(b)(2)(1), Applicants respectfully request that the Amendment be approved.

Applicants are also submitting herewith, as Appendix A, a substitute specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.125 revised to incorporate the requested amendments into the specification and claims. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.215, Applicants respectfully request the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to base the patent application publication upon this copy of the substitute specification notwithstanding that it has not been submitted in compliance with the electronic filing system. As of this time, the electronic filing system is not capable of accepting preliminary amendments. In lieu of this limitation, Applicants respectfully request that the United States Patent and Trademark Office accept and publish the application as revised.

Applicant hereby authorizes the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Applicants' Deposit Account Number 03-2026 for any fees incurred with respect to this amendment and request for publication.

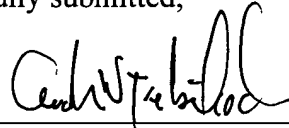
Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application and the claims, as amended, therein are in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of all claims at an early date is solicited.

Serial No. 10/807,375
Preliminary Amendment of June 4, 2004

Applicants would appreciate a telephone call to the undersigned attorney of record should the Examiner have any questions or comments with respect to this Preliminary Amendment or the claim language for purposes of efficiently resolving same.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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